

Lancaster Intelligencer.

THURSDAY EVENING, JAN. 1, 1880.

Magnanimous as Well as Bold.

Governor Garcelon has submitted to the supreme court of Maine twelve questions of law that cover the action taken in counting the vote of the state, and has anew earned the confidence of the people in which his conduct has already so well established him. He has shown himself bold and honest and wise, and whether of his own motion entirely, or through the excellence of his advisers, he has moved in a difficult pathway without thus far a misstep. It was right that he and the council of the state should decide the matters the law put upon them to decide, according to their understanding of those laws; and it was right, if the correctness of their interpretation was questioned by any part of the people, that they should seek the decisive opinion of the supreme court. There is no possibility of cavilling at the fairness with which the Republican malcontents are being treated. The questions which Mr. Morrill asked the governor to submit to the court have been referred to it in their essence, though their form has been changed to relieve them of the suggestions of fact that they were incumbered with. If any disputed points of law has not all been submitted by the governor Mr. Morrill and his fellow Republicans will have good reason to complain; but we do not perceive that there has been any such omission, and to the charge of form and phraseology no objection can be made, since it was manifestly proper for the governor to ask for the needed information in his own way. If the Republicans get substantially what they are entitled to expect they have every reason to be satisfied, since it is only by the grace of the governor and through his good sense and his fairness that they get anything at all.

If the supreme court of Maine is composed of good lawyers and fair men, its decisions will satisfy the people, though they be Republicans. The Democrats of the country have no reason to feel a strong confidence in the fair decision of politico-legal questions by Republican courts, through their terrible experience with the electoral commission; but all courts are not as meanly partisan as the United States supreme court, and it may be that Maine is more happy than the nation in having, in its highest judicial tribunal, judges who respect themselves and reverence the law more than they adore their party. There are plenty of lawyers who would not be tempted to prostitute their profession to the demands of their politics, and who can be relied on to judge honestly and impartially any great question of the law they love to construe. But the trouble with us is that these true lawyers do not always, or even often, get on the bench, preferentially to which is now a-days so generally secured by political services and political subservience. That the bench in Maine has the respect of the governor we may assume from the fact of his consenting to take its opinion and the result of its intervention must be to quiet the disturbed people of the state. The attention of the country cannot but be attracted by the fact that the Democratic governor of the state claims no advantage for his party that the law does not give it and refuses to avail himself of his power to permit no appeal from his own interpretation of the law. The habit of Republican politicians to use all the power they can snatch, legitimately or illegitimately, evading and overturning judicial restraints whenever possible, is so well established and recognized that the opposite impulse of a Democratic governor stands in most refreshing contrast to it and reflects the utmost credit upon him and the party he represents, and which must, if it is often favored with so wise and determined leadership, be established on the footstools of power that it has so long been struggling to obtain, but which have been stolen from the nervous hands of its chiefs even when they were already within their grasp.

Where's Blaine?

The meeting of the Republican state committee in Philadelphia, a few days ago, and its ready acquiescence in the Cameron programme, again demonstrates that if Mr. Blaine expects to have any strength in his native state the friends of its "favorite son" have got to be up and a-doing. Mr. Blaine has a tight grip on the Republicans of Pennsylvania. It may not be to their credit, but it is the fact. Were it left to their popular vote a majority would publicly declare for him, and when the vote of the delegation was largely secured from him at Cincinnati, causing his defeat, there was no little indignation in Pennsylvania. Lancaster county is a good indicator of this, and as the Old Guard of Republicanism in Pennsylvania, the temper of her politicians is significant. Very many of the strongest and most active of them are now for Blaine. They are for anybody to beat Cameron, and yet they admit that the action of the state committee has tied them hand and foot and handed them gagged and bound over to the enemy.

Under the rules governing the party here, delegates to the state and national convention are to be elected by primary election. It is too late to hold any such election for delegates to a state convention on February 4. The county committee will be called together and will name them, and as the committee is packed in the Cameron interest they will be satisfactory to it. These delegates or the committee itself will name national delegates of their own kidney and Lancaster county may be counted for Cameron.

Here as elsewhere the opposition seems to be tongue tied. Blaine's friends, as well those active chiefly as Cameron's enemies, are paralyzed. They seem to submit sullenly and silently—but submissively all the same—to the decree of the masters. And some of them even seem to be fond of the chains they wear.

THE New Year opens bright and cheerfully. The old went out peacefully and calmly. May it be auspicious of the bringing of better things to all mankind.

MINOR TOPICS.

Happy New Year!

Ring in the new.

START the diary.

It is a leap year, too, and, young ladies, don't you forget that.

WHAT an unpopular administration it is to be sure—can't get anybody to take the English or Russian mission.

THE San Francisco *Alta* says that George C. Gorham's leadership has wrought only ruin to the Republican party of California, and that the party there have nothing further to do with him, and yet he is their member of the national committee.

THE usual preparations have been made for the New Year's reception at the White House. Privileged correspondents received tickets of admission to the vestibule, where the grooms and coachmen await their masters. Newspaper Row threatens to resent the insult.

HAPPY New Year to the Philadelphia *Times*, which comes out to-day in a new and handsome dress. We had not observed that it needed it, but such is the punctilious typographer of the *Times*, that it never wants to be told that its clothes need patching or brushing.

THE annual report of Colonel Maxwell, superintendent of the Chamber of Commerce of Cincinnati, shows a great increase in the trade of that city during the year 1879. The total value of the receipts of merchandise and products of all kinds in Cincinnati last year was over \$208,000,000, and of the total shipments over \$192,000,000.

MINISTER FOSTER has visited nearly every state in the Mexican Republic, thus accomplishing what no other foreign diplomat or tourist has performed, and giving himself a thorough and complete knowledge of the country. He responded to the various addresses of welcome from the Mexicans in their own tongue and was cordially received everywhere.

A POLITICAL economy club, recently formed in Montreal, has eighty members of all parties, nationalities and religions. Its purpose is the discussion of matters relating to Canadian interests, and one of its members says one of the first questions discussed will be that of a commercial treaty with the United States, "which will, in all probability, bring up for discussion questions of independence, annexation and confederation with the British empire."

A REPORT was made a short time since to the auditor general's department returning the assessment of the Pennsylvania railroad shares at \$37 each for the year. The auditor general claimed that the shares should be assessed at the average cash value from November 1st to November 15th last, and Hon. John Scott, solicitor of the Pennsylvania railroad, and Wayne MacVegh, at a hearing before Attorney General Palmer and Corporation Clerk Kern, of the auditor general's department, argued against this construction of the law and in favor of the report. But Mr. Palmer had previously given an opinion in accord with Gen. Schell's view and will have to reverse himself if he changes.

PERSONAL.

General SHERMAN has been granted three months' leave of absence, with permission to go beyond the sea.

GRANT has been kindly received in Augusta, Ga., and is having hospitalities tendered him in North Carolina.

GEORGE VISCOUNT STRANFORD, was the original of Lord Beaconsfield's "Comingsy."

MISS McCLELLAN, the young daughter of the general, is described as tall, slender and blonde, very fair, and gifted with a charming smile.

General SHERMAN had the pleasant Christmas gift of a fourth grandchild. His daughter, Mrs. Fitch, has now two sons and two daughters.

Professor DAVID SWING has refused, it is reported, to have his salary raised from seven to ten thousand dollars, and has asked that the offered addition be used for charity.

Senator EDMUNDS is visiting Burlington, after a year's absence; and in honor of his return an informal and very pleasant reception was given him by his townsmen of both political parties.

Mrs. HAYES will be assisted in receiving her New Year's calls by four young ladies—Miss Matthews, daughter of the ex-Senator; two Misses Jones, of Cincinnati; and Miss Lucy Cook, Mrs. Hayes' cousin.

The king and queen of Spain showed publicly the other day, while driving in Madrid, their devotion to their church. They met a priest who was taking the last sacraments to a dying man, and alighting from their carriage the young pair lent it to the priest, following on foot amid the acclamations of the people.

Mr. Hayes, Mrs. Hayes and Mr. Wheeler held a reception at the executive mansion to-day, the hours from 11 a. m. to 1 p. m. being devoted to the cabinet and diplomatic corps, the supreme court judges, senators, representatives, judges of the court of claims, district commissioners, army and navy officers, and others in official positions in Washington, and the reception of citizens continuing from 1 to 2.

Baron GUSTAVE DE ROTHSCHILD, of Paris, has a splendid mansion on the west side of Avenue Marigny, opposite the side of the Elysee. The Baron's next door neighbor was Debonnaire, the wealthy railway contractor. Upon Debonnaire's death his mansion was put up to be sold. The upset price was \$100,000. It was a new house and cost a great deal more than \$400,000, for the architect was ordered to make it comfortable without regard to cost. Baron Rothschild gave \$400,000 for it, and instantly had it pulled down to give his mansion a larger lawn—a lawn which cost \$40,000.

Hon. GEORGE S. HOUTSON, United States senator from Alabama, died at his home at Athens, yesterday morning. The news of Senator Houtson's death causes much sorrow. The capital offices are all closed in respect to his memory. Governor Cobb and many prominent citizens will go to Athens to attend the funeral services on Friday. Senator Houtson was a native of

Tennessee and was in his seventieth year. He removed to Alabama when a boy, and after receiving a common school education studied law and practiced in Limestone county, became a legislator, congressman, and senator.

AMUSEMENT NOTES.

What the Players are Doing. Pete Conklin goes out as clown, with Sol's Brothers circus the coming season.

Alice Oates and company appear in Wilmington to-night, and heading to-morrow night.

Emerson, Clark and the Daly Brothers have formed a combination, with which they will start on a tour shortly.

Joe Jefferson is spending his holiday season at his country seat in Honolulu, N. J. He will soon make a Southern tour.

John T. Raymond's company presented in with a handsome gown, at Louisville, Ky., a few days ago.

Chas. A. Wing, who was here this season in advance of the Frayne-Tiffany company, is now business manager of John A. Stevens.

Low Simmons is about to organize a minstrel troupe for a tour in Africa. He has already engaged Sanford and Wilson, musical mules.

Lizzie Creese, well known here, who was a member of the Walnut Street theatre stock company for several years, is traveling with Mary Anderson.

Billy Wylie, the well known Irish comedian, who was here last season with Texas Jack and May Fisk, is with the company exhibiting the curiosities in Mishler's building, Centre square.

Tony Pastor celebrated his wooden wedding at his home in New York a few evenings ago. Among the small hours of the morning four wagon loads of kindling wood were dumped into the area in front of the house.

John Williams, of Williams and Pickert, who are said to be the best of the best dancers in the profession, was attacked on the street in Pittsburgh a few evenings ago. He had part of one ear bitten off and was otherwise badly used up. He will be sent to New York for repairs.

Gorman's Philadelphia "Church Choir," "Pinafore" company, which was here on November 8th, collapsed at Holyoke, Mass., on December 26th, owing to continued bad business. It is said that the troupe will make a fresh start about the middle of January.

Tony Denier and his troupe have been giving out presents in New Orleans last week. Mr. Denier presented George H. Adams, the clown, with a beautiful amethyst ring with his initials in diamonds. He gave each member of the troupe a gold medal as a memento of his esteem. The troupe presented Mr. Denier with a handsome and valuable silver set, later in the week.

Archie Hughes, the minstrel, who together with Fayette Welch, had a troupe last season for a short time, is following in the footsteps of Dan Rice. He attended a meeting in Hooley's Opera House, Brooklyn, a few days since, and was given \$500 to relieve the sufferers.

"Senator" Bob Hart, who has been converted, was making an address, Archie stepped to the front and signed the pledge in the presence of the audience and amid loud applause.

THE MAINE CASE IN COURT.

Questions of Law Submitted. Governor Garcelon has submitted to the supreme judicial court of Maine some of the questions of law proposed by Mr. Morrill. The questions are said to cover the main points suggested by Mr. Morrill.

The military officers summoned from Bangor and an interview was given to the governor in reference to an inquiry concerning the calling out of the militia companies should they be needed. The officers promised to obey the orders of the governor as long as he is in office. The governor spoke in strong language in opposition to calling out militia companies.

The question of the time when Gov. Garcelon's term expires is exciting some interest, some Republican politicians asserting that he goes out of office at noon to-day, because of the constitution of Maine says: "The governor shall be elected by the qualified electors, and shall hold his office one year, from the first Wednesday of January in each year." The first Wednesday of January, 1879, was also the first day of January. It is asserted, therefore, by prominent Republicans that Garcelon's term of office expires to-day at noon, and that any exercise by him of the functions of Governor after that hour would be a usurpation of authority. This argument receives no support from intelligent men. Gov. Garcelon was asked about it, and he said that it was a humbug, that his term of office did not expire until noon on Wednesday, January 7. Other legal gentlemen are of the same opinion.

Stories about Augusta conflict greatly. Some are certain that Garcelon's attempt is to be made to capture the state house by force; others are just as confident that nothing whatever will be done in that direction. A great many are still inclined to believe that a conflict will be had between the publicans and the state authorities, but the more sensible are inclined to believe that if the necessary precautions are taken by the governor no trouble will ensue.

Intense impatience is noticeable on every hand, and the greatest anxiety is manifested by men of all parties as to the events of the next few days. A force of nearly seventy-five men, under the charge of Superintendent Lancaster, are quartered at the state house, armed and prepared to resist any attack that may be made upon that building.

Grant and Belknap.

When Grant was in the city he had a secretary of war named Belknap, who required those receiving appointments as traders or sutlers at military posts to pay him thousands of dollars for the privilege, which money he pocketed and he was called a "scalawag" by the people.

It is said that Belknap is the most richly dressed man in Washington. In time, this rascality was discovered, and Belknap instantly resigned his position to escape prosecution, and the pentagon. He was impeached by Congress, but never tried before a criminal court. This man Belknap has been following Grant up, and last week, according to the daily papers, was admitted to Grant's presence, and the two had a pleasant chat together for some time. A man is judged by the company he keeps, and if Grant chose to receive this self-confessed thief in this free and easy way, it only shows that his ideas of propriety are not up to as high a standard as usually prevails in this locality among honest and honorable men. He should have refused to countenance this man in any way.

A New Feeder to the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad.

It is authoritatively stated that the project for building a feeder to the Baltimore and Ohio railroad from Moorefield, W. Va., to Green Spring run, has not fallen through, as rumored, but is under consideration. The Cambria iron company, of Johnstown, Pa., and the Edgar Thomson steel works, of Pittsburgh, Pa., who it is said, have the option on the most important tracts of Hardy county ore lands, take deep interest in the scheme, and will aid the Baltimore and Ohio company in making the road, the building of which is, however, contingent on the development of iron ore resources of the Moorefield region. Experts representing the iron companies named will visit Moorefield next Thursday to make an examination. Their report will be had before further action is taken.

STATE ITEMS.

A \$5,000 verdict has been given against a Philadelphia passenger railway for killing a woman's husband.

There is a boy living at Bendersville, Adams county, 12 years of age, who eats regularly five times a day and is said to weigh 170 pounds.

The white marble building, No. 1,529 Chestnut street, Philadelphia, formerly occupied by the Reform club, was sold yesterday to Alfred G. Baker, for \$112,500.

Chairman Cameron has issued a formal call for a meeting of the Republican national convention on June 2, in Chicago, to nominate candidates for president and vice president of the United States.

John Burns, who, intoxicated, at South Easton, stabbed his wife while she was lying asleep in bed. She is not expected to recover. Burns afterwards made an unsuccessful attempt to commit suicide. He has been arrested.

It is announced that the Pennsylvania railroad company intend building a hotel on the block between the Market to Fifth street, and Merriam to Fifteenth street, Philadelphia, as soon as the elevated extension gets its terminus down town.

The semi-official announcement has been made, by a prominent officer of the Pennsylvania railroad company, that some time early in the spring, another annual meeting in March, there would be an increase in the wages of the employees of the corporation from the highest to the lowest.

A party of fiendish young men attempted to hang a young girl at Bear Gap recently. She was placed on a chair, and the rough crowd, headed by a man, the girl was discovered by her sister and cut down alive, but her fright was so intense that she has been confined to bed from the effects of the shock.

Prices of coal at Mauch Chunk, announced by Lehigh operators, are as follows: No. 1, \$2.50; No. 2, \$2.25; No. 3, \$2.00; No. 4, \$1.75; No. 5, \$1.50; No. 6, \$1.25; No. 7, \$1.00; No. 8, \$0.75; No. 9, \$0.50; No. 10, \$0.25. These figures are the same as those ruled in Lehigh trade for two months past. Resumption, which is fixed for Monday next, will, it is believed, result in a sharp advance in the price of coal. The Lehigh market has induced many individual operators to continue suspension which in some cases may be prolonged two weeks.

The ravages of the diphtheria are being felt to an alarming extent in Johnstown and vicinity. In Ambria borough almost one hundred children have passed away, and it is feared that the end is not yet. In one instance a mother and four children were carried off; in another five children; in another seven children. On "Benshoof's Hill," Taylor township, it has been estimated that in the past few days one hundred have already become its victims. In one family six were taken at one time, and two died within an hour.

LATEST NEWS BY MAIL.

A fire in Hakodadi, Japan, on the 7th of December, destroyed 2,300 houses, comprising about one-fifth of the town.

The famine in Ireland is on the increase. The St. Patrick's society of Chicago has given \$500 to relieve the sufferers.

In Toronto, John Battle, a native of the county of Donegal, Ireland, died at St. Bridget's home yesterday. He was 112 years old.

The total losses by fires in Baltimore during 1879 were \$196,584. Twenty-five persons were burned by coal oil, six fatally.

A special from Chicago says: "John E. Ryan, five years old, shot and probably fatally wounded his little sister, May, last evening. The boy has been arrested."

James Houghton, aged 16 years, was killed by a train while crossing the railroad track in a wagon, near Chautauque, N. Y., yesterday. Both his horses were also killed.

A colored roustabout named John Cash, stabbed and dangerously wounded Edward Connell, the white watchman of the steamboat Red Cloud at Pittsburgh on Tuesday.

The story that Joe Colum had been pardoned by Gov. Robinson has no foundation. The governor said that John W. Cox, who murdered Mrs. Hull in New York, gets no new trial.

E. Wallace Blackman, at one time editor of the *Seranton (Pa.) Register*, and recently editor of the Indianapolis *Sentinel*, died in New Haven, Conn., yesterday, aged forty years.

The Louisiana canvassing board yesterday completed the official count of the vote for the new constitution. It was adopted by a majority of 59,148, and the debt ordinance by 10,487 majority.

E. H. Learned, ex-cashier of the Uncas national bank, of Norwich, Conn., was arrested yesterday, \$15,000 of the bank's funds. The arrest was not pressed by the directors of the bank, but was made under orders from Washington.

At Massillon, Ohio, yesterday, Judge Meyer overruled the motion for a new trial for Gustave Orr and George Mann, convicted of the murder of John W. Watson, in August last, and sentenced them to be hanged on the 7th of May next. The culprits are boys of seventeen years.

The town of Hakodadi, in Yezo, was partially destroyed by fire on the 7th inst. About 2,300 houses were burned. An unusually severe shock of earthquake occurred at Tokio November 20th. Warlike preparations for a move in Central Asia continue without intermission.

Mr. Richard Smith, of the *Gazette*, Cincinnati, has been arrested on a warrant sworn out by Chief of Police Wappenstein, charged with criminal libel. The man who gave rise to the arrest was the publication in the *Gazette* of interviews charging Officer Wappenstein with complicity with a number of gamblers.

The excitement over the newly discovered silver mine in Garrett county, Md., has been reaching its height. The mine is situated in the mountains of Garrett county, and it is said that the specimens of the ore have been sent to a Philadelphia assay office and reported to yield a value of about \$113 to the ton. A number of persons resident in the neighborhood of the mine have been called together to destroy the expenses of the exploration and examination of the mine by experts.

Three coaches, including the sleeping car of an express train, on the Iowa and Minnesota division of the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul railroad, were thrown from the track near St. Paul, yesterday morning, by the breaking of a rail. The sleeping car broke its couplings and rolled down an embankment sixty feet high, to the river, and was smashed to pieces. Its fall was somewhat broken by another railroad track half way down. Six passengers were killed, and the car was picked up unscathed and seriously injured. One of them, a lady, may not recover.

The New Opera.

Gilbert and Sullivan's new comic opera, "The Pirates of Penzance," was produced for the first time last night at the Fifth Avenue theatre, New York, before an audience that filled the house to overflowing, and the papers report an immense success. The *Sun*'s critic describes it as rivaling "Pinafore" in the elements calculated to give it popular favor. Mr. Gilbert's share being even brighter than in the former opera. It is fuller of points and happy wit than the former. As for Mr. Sullivan, he has, however spared no pains to prevent himself from falling behind his previous reputation, and has given to the "Pirates" even a more elaborate and carefully written score, and a broader and more scholarly treatment, than he brought to the composition of the "Pinafore."

ELECTRIC LIGHT.

One of Edison's lamps burning for 308 hours.

It will be several days yet before Menlo Park will be thoroughly lighted by electricity, but the preparations for this event are rapidly being pushed forward. Lamp posts are being erected at every available point, and the copper wires which are to convey the electricity are being stretched along the sidewalks and connected with the houses. The lamp posts are of hollow iron, painted white, and surmounted by an oval of glass, in which the carbon lamp is enclosed. The wires pass up the hollow post and connect with the lamp. Only three of these street lamps are yet burning, two in front of Mr. Edison's office and one in front of his house. These are kept incandescent night and day, with a view to testing the feasibility of the carbon horseshoes. One of the lamps in the laboratory has been burning 14 hours a day for 22 days, and the carbon has apparently lost none of its weight or power of resistance to the electric current. "Suppose," said Mr. Edison, "that on an average each lamp in a house is burned for five hours each day. That lamp has now burned 308 hours, which would be equivalent to over 60 days in an ordinary house, flowing the carbon will last I can't say. That is what we are experimenting on now. I am waiting for one of my carbon horse shoes to consume."

Each generator of electricity will furnish only forty lamps, and Mr. Edison has only one generator connected with his eighty-horse-power engine now. He requires nineteen more before he can light the 800 lamps which he estimates that his engine will supply. As each generator is completed he will add to the number of his lamps, and thus in time Menlo Park will be thoroughly illuminated. When this will be the inventor himself is unable to say. In the meantime, all visitors are made heartily welcome at the laboratory, and every facility is offered for the investigation of the new electric light.

A Desperate Encounter With Bushrangers.

On the 17th of November six bushrangers, "stuck up" at Wantabadgery station, near Sandridge, N. S. W., and "baited up" over thirty persons and held possession of the place for nineteen hours. The police attacked them and a desperate encounter ensued. Two of the bushrangers were killed and the other four captured, one of whom was wounded. Constable Bowen was also wounded in the encounter and has since died. The leader of the gang, named Scott, alias Captain Moonlight, a notorious Victorian criminal, with the other prisoners, was committed for trial on the charge of murder.

LOCAL INTELLIGENCE.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE.

Frame Dwelling, Carriage House, Stables, Tobacco Shed, Ice House and Other Property Destroyed.

This morning between six and seven o'clock fire was discovered in one of the stables belonging to Charles Schwebel on Low street near Freiberg, and within a very short time, his brick carriage house, brick horse stable 24 by 40 feet, hay loft, frame cow stable, frame ice house, frame tobacco shed and frame dwelling, the last named being occupied by Hall Nash and family, were a mass of ruins, most of the contents of the buildings being also destroyed. Scarcely was the spread of the flames that it was with difficulty the family of Mr. Nash consisting of his housekeeper and seven children were rescued from the burning building, and it was only through great peril that Daniel Schwebel, aged 16 years, and Augustus Ehler succeeded in saving the live stock by rushing into the burning stable. Besides the hay, and other feed, the principal articles destroyed were a heavy farm wagon and hay-badders, grain drill, three plows, feed chest, rakes, hoes, harness and about three quarters of an acre of tobacco. Mr. Schwebel estimates his loss at fully \$4,000, on which he has \$2,000 insurance as follows: \$600 on brick stable; \$200 on hay, straw and feed therein; \$400 on frame stable and \$150 on hay, straw and feed therein; \$150 on farming implements, all in the North British and Mercantile; also, \$500 on the tobacco shed and frame dwelling, in the British America—Messrs. Bausman & Burns being the local agents of both companies. In the Williamsburg City insurance company he had \$1000 insurance on the tobacco in stock in the frame barn. But all of this tobacco, with the exception of three-fourths of an acre had been removed before the fire.

There appears to be no doubt that the fire was the work of an incendiary. It was first discovered by a neighbor living in rear of Mr. Schwebel's premises, who saw flames bursting from the stable and at once gave an alarm. Some time before the fire Mr. Schwebel saw a man, whom he thinks she would recognize, running away from the building, and the quarrymen who were at work at the quarry, say they saw a man running across the wheat field some distance from the barn. Mr. Schwebel did not think much about the matter at the time, as persons have been known to sleep in the stable several times heretofore, but as soon as the fire broke out it flashed upon her that the man she had been fired the building.

The fireman were promptly on the ground, but could do but little service. There is only a four inch water main to supply that section of the town. This main runs through John street and the draft of water is so strong on East King street, that it is almost impossible for residents of John, Freiberg, Low and other streets in the southeast section of the city to draw water from their hydrants. This morning the fire plugs in the vicinity were found frozen and after they were thawed out, the water main was found clogged with mud, and after it had been partly cleaned by the sucking of the steamers it was found to be entirely too small to furnish them with a quantity of water. This insufficiency has been noticed on several former occasions, and it is now in order for the water department to remedy the matter by laying a larger main.

Charitably inclined people will do a good work by contributing something towards the comfort of Hall Nash's family. Mr. Nash is an industrious colored man, and had gone to his work before the fire broke out. His housekeeper is a cripple, and has to go about on crutches. She has three children, and Mr. Nash four; all of whom lost nearly every stitch of their rather scant wardrobe; one or two of the smaller ones being carried out of their beds in absolute nakedness. When the reporter left the scene this morning, Betty, the housekeeper, was sitting in an open field, homeless and homeless, surrounded by her children, and sadly keeping guard over the little furniture that had been saved from the flames.

Our Great Local Cigar Trade.

Seventy-six millions, two hundred and ninety-nine thousand, five hundred and fifty cigars (76,299,550) were sold in the 9th district of Pennsylvania during the six

months, ending Dec. 31, 1879. The internal revenue tax amounted to \$457,797.30.

PHI KAPPA SIGMA.

Tenth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter—Collation at the Penn Club.

Parlor C of the Continental hotel was used yesterday morning and afternoon by members of the Phi Kappa Sigma fraternity, who were attending the tenth annual convocation of the grand chapter. The society was founded in the year 1850, and rapidly came into favor among the various colleges. In almost all the universities of the South it was represented, and continued to grow into prominence, applications for chapter charters being constantly made to the grand chapter. When the rebellion broke out a number of the chapters in the Southern colleges were broken up, but the fraternity still retained its popularity, and the meeting yesterday was largely attended by delegates from the University of Pennsylvania, Lafayette college, Easton, Washington and Jefferson college, Franklin and Marshall college, University of Virginia, and other colleges.

The routine business was transacted, and during the evening the triennial convocation and collation was held at the Penn club, Locust and Eighth streets. The gathering was informal and old college songs were sung, anecdotes related and impromptu speech-making indulged in. During the evening a poem from the pen of J. A. Whipple, of the Upsilon Chapter, Northwestern university, Ill., and later an oration was delivered by W. U. Hensel, of the Lancaster Intelligencer and of the Zeta chapter, Franklin and Marshall college.

Mr. Hensel spoke for about thirty minutes, his oration being in some degree an exposition of the principles of the fraternity and an application of them to vital questions of the day. The tendency of the age, he argued, is toward the mechanical, to the achievement of the highest good by outward mechanical devices, and to exalt the body politic exclusively, ignoring the soul politic. The materialism of philosophy, the utilitarianism of education, the degradation of art, the expediency of statesmanship, the trade of literature and the schemes of religion as "a means of salvation," were commented on as signs of the times that prove them to be too deeply affected with the mechanical spirit.

Against this Mr. Hensel argued for an art that should know no guidance but inspiration, a science with no end but truth, a government with no mission but justice, a law of Divine inspiration, a people with God woven on their hearts rather than in their constitution, a scholarship with no dogma but the Truth for the Truth's sake, no line of action but the Right for the Right's sake.

Mr. Hensel's oration was received with decided approbation, and at a late hour the meeting closed, with the singing of a characteristic song.

The Thieves Arrested in New York.

Detective John Denhard of Reading, Pa., and Detective von Gerichten of the central office took to the Jefferson Market police court in New York yesterday Frederick Bierath and August Lehr, who were arrested on warrants from Pennsylvania. Justice Bixby turned them over to Denhard. Denhard said that during the past summer and fall numerous burglaries had been committed in isolated farmhouses throughout Berks and Lancaster counties. In every instance the burglars were masked and intimidated their victims by their numbers. They tied up and gagged persons several times. The detective was unable to tell their exploits, but said that the farmhouse of Daniel Reese of Outantown township, Berks county, had been entered and a quantity of jewelry, valued at \$1,000, taken. They broke into the store at Blue Bell, Lancaster county, and carried off a large amount of dry goods. Two clothing stores in Kingston were also sacked.

At last the thieves grew daring, and, venturing into Reading, robbed the house of Mrs. Amanda Ladd and secured a large amount of silverware. The Reading detectives then made it warm for them, and the gang broke up. A member who was wounded while robbing a farmhouse told the names of all his companions. This caused the immediate arrest of two men in Reading and three in Philadelphia. The majority of the thieves had fled to New York, and Denhard came on with warrants for them. It was learned that one, Joseph Bachman, had been sent to the penitentiary for larceny two weeks ago. Bierath and Lehr were captured at Green-wich street and Battery place on Wednesday morning.

THE LITIZ INFANT.

We noticed yesterday that a child had been found in a privy at Litiz. The corner